

Agronomic Update - Pioneer Agronomist Nate Peck

Week of September 12, 2022

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NE Iowa Tar Spot Update

For some, tar spot will not be much of an issue this year but for others, there are fields turning brown rapidly in the Ridgeway, Decorah, Ossian area. There are other areas in the northern tier of counties that will also likely see some potential issues. Last week the milk line did not seem to progress a whole lot but most hybrids are at least ½ milk line which means we have accumulated ~ 90-95% of our yield.

- Tar Spot comments from last week
 - Corn on corn acres with tar spot in 2021 showed disease first and at higher severity
 - Rotated acre started showing tar spot a week or two after the corn on corn acres
 - Fungicides have helped tremendously vs the untreated acre but have worn off
 - Lower fertility/other environmental stresses allow disease to take over more quickly
 - Our scores are pretty accurate so far from my observations

Here is a field I have been keeping an eye on over the past month. Each picture is of the same leaf just a week or two apart. Tar spot showed up first in this field July 12th, disease progression has been slow but as soon as the fungicide wore off, and the plant started filling grain, tar spot has taken over very rapidly. Kernel count and kernel depth both look good in this field but as this disease progresses, I am concerned about stalk

integrity come harvest. This week and next will be good timing to get some drones up in the air to assess tar spot ratings against other Pioneer products and the competition. I am still very confident that we have the advantage!



Photo Dates: 8/15/22 8/30/22 9/7/22

Photo credit: Josh Adams

Soybean Crop Progression

Early planted and sub 2.3 maturity beans are starting to turn pretty fast. Some may say that we didn't need the rain over the weekend and in some areas that may be the case but I am never one to turn away a nice rain at this time of year. The early planted/early maturity fields that are more than 30% yellow probably did not benefit a whole lot from this last rain but if your beans are still 90-100% green I do think we captured a little more yield.

- SDS and Brown Stem Rot
 - Seem To be relatively isolated to small areas of the field
 - Compaction, planting conditions, seed treatment have been the main driving factors
- SCN
 - If you think you have SCN pressure, lets get these fields sampled this year
- White Mold
 - Minimal WM in our territory
 - Areas with excess moisture and heavy manure/organic levels are showing it the worst